

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 9, 2005. Claims 1-7, 9 and 11-14 are pending in this application. Claims 8 and 10 have been canceled, and their recitations incorporated into Claim 7, with corresponding changes being made to Claim 14; these actions are taken without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. In addition, the dependency of Claims 9 and 11 has been changed to reflect cancellation of Claims 8 and 10, and changes as to matters of form only have been made to Claims 4, 11 (to address the Examiner's objection to the wording of that claim) and 13. Also, the specification has been amended to address the Examiner's objections to the specification and the drawings. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-6, and the indication that Claims 10 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, with no change in scope. Since Claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the recitations of Claim 10 and of intervening Claim 8, and similar changes have been made to Claim 14, Claims 7 and 14 are both believed to be in condition for allowance.

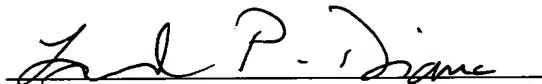
The other claims in this application are each dependent from independent Claim 7, and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each rejected dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

An Information Disclosure Statement is in preparation and will be submitted shortly.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Leonard P. Diana", is written over a horizontal line.

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